Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) An antibody which
   (i) ~~reacts~~ binds with an epitope on human dendritic cells (DCs) displaying ~~features~~ one or more surface markers of ~~at least one of~~ both immature ~~or~~ and mature human DCs from peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs), but
   (ii) does not react with other PBMCs.

2. (Currently Amended) The antibody of claim 1, wherein said DCs ~~represent~~ comprise a DC population of a maturational stage between immature and mature DCs.

3. (Previously Presented) The antibody of claim 1, wherein said DCs are HLA-$DR^+$.

4. (Previously Presented) The antibody of claim 1, wherein said DCs are selected from the group consisting of $CD64^-$, $CD33^+$, $CD45RA^+$, $CD11c^+$ and $p55^-$ and $CD16^+$.

5. (Previously Presented) The antibody of claim 1, wherein said DCs are of restricted size and granularity located between lymphocytes and monocytes.

6. (Previously Presented) The antibody of claim 1, wherein said antibody is selected from the group consisting of a monoclonal antibody, a polyclonal antibody, a chimeric antibody, a humanized antibody, a bispecific antibody, a synthetic antibody, an antibody fragment capable of binding to said epitope, and a chemically modified derivative thereof.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) The antibody of claim 6, wherein said DCs ~~are recognized by~~ bind to the antibody produced by hybridoma cell line DSM ACC2241, by hybridoma cell line DSM ACC 2399 or by hybridoma cell line DSM ACC 2398.

9. (Previously Presented) The antibody of claim 6, which is produced by hybridoma cell line DSM ACC2241, DSM ACC 2399 or DSM ACC 2998.

10. (Currently Amended) A ~~continuous,~~ stable antibody-producing cell line which is capable of producing an antibody of claim 1.

11. (Previously Presented) The cell line of claim 10, wherein said cell line is a hybridoma cell line having the deposit number DSM ACC2241, DSM ACC 2398 or DSM ACC 2399.

12-15 (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A method for preparing an antibody capable of ~~recognizing~~ binding to human dendritic cells (DCs) from peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) or a ~~functional~~ fragment or derivative thereof capable of binding to said epitope on the DCs or at least one immunoglobulin chain thereof, comprising:

(a) culturing the cell line of claim 10; and

(b) isolating said antibody, functional fragment or derivative thereof or at least one immunoglobulin chain thereof from the culture.

17. (Currently Amended) An antibody, an epitope-binding fragment thereof or derivative thereof or immunoglobulin chain encoded by a polynucleotide encoding at least a variable region of an immunoglobulin chain of said antibody which ~~reacts~~ binds with an epitope on human dendritic cells (DCs) displaying ~~features~~ one or more surface markers of ~~at least one of~~ both immature or mature human DCs from peripheral blood

mononuclear cells (PBMCs), but does not react with other PBMCs or obtainable by the method of claim 16.

18-29 (Canceled)

30. (Previously presented) A method for isolating or identifying DCs from peripheral blood, comprising:

(a) contacting a sample of peripheral blood with the antibody of claim 1;

(b) detecting the presence of antibody/DC complexes; and optionally

(c) recovering DCs which have bound to said antibody or functional fragment thereof.

31 – 40 (Canceled)

41. (Currently Amended) A kit comprising the antibody of claim 1~~, an antigen or epitope which is recognized by said antibody,~~ a polypeptide ~~or a fragment thereof comprising a domain of a binding site of said antibody, a polynucleotide which upon expression encodes at least a variable region of an immunoglobulin chain of said antibody, encodes the antigen or epitope that is recognized by said antibody or encodes a polypeptide comprising a domain of a binding site of said antibody, a vector comprising said polynucleotide, DCs recognized by the antibody of claim 1, T cells obtainable by a method in which T cells are co cultured with said DCs, exposed to an antigen or expressing an antigen to activate the T cells to proliferate or to become cytotoxic in response to said antigen, or a compound obtainable by a method comprising:~~

~~(a) contacting T cells and DCs recognized by said antibody of claim 1 in the presence of a component capable of providing a detectable signal in response to the activation of said T cells by a T cell activator with a compound to be screened under conditions to permit activation of the T cell, and~~

~~(b) detecting the presence or absence of the signal generated from the interaction of the activator with the T-cells, wherein said DCs are exposed to an antigen by incubation in culture media~~, and optionally comprising additional components.

42. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising the antibody of claim 1~~, an antigen or epitope which is recognized by said antibody, a polypeptide or a fragment thereof comprising a domain of a binding site of said antibody, a polynucleotide which encodes at least a variable region of an immunoglobulin chain of said antibody, encodes the antigen or epitope that is recognized by said antibody or encodes a polypeptide comprising a domain of a binding site of said antibody, a vector comprising said polynucleotide, DCs recognized by the antibody of claim 1, T-cells obtainable by a method in which T-cells are co-cultured with said DCs, exposed to an antigen or expressing an antigen to activate the T-cells to proliferate or to become cytotoxic in response to said antigen, or a compound obtainable by a method comprising:~~

~~(a) contacting T-cells and DCs recognized by said antibody of claim 1 in the presence of a component capable of providing a detectable signal in response to the activation of said T-cells by a T-cell activator with a compound to be screened under conditions to permit activation of the T-cell, and~~

~~(b) detecting the presence or absence of the signal generated from the interaction of the activator with the T-cells, wherein said DCs are exposed to an antigen by incubation in culture media~~.

43. (Original) The composition of claim 42 which is a pharmaceutical composition optionally further comprising a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier.

44. (Canceled)

45. (Currently Amended) A diagnostic composition comprising the antibody of claim 1, ~~an antigen or epitope which is recognized by said antibody, a polypeptide or a fragment thereof comprising a domain of a binding site of said antibody, a~~

~~polynucleotide which encodes at least a variable region of an immunoglobulin chain of said antibody, encodes the antigen or epitope that is recognized by said antibody or encodes a polypeptide comprising a domain of a binding site of said antibody, a vector comprising said polynucleotide, the cells comprising said polynucleotide,~~ and optionally suitable means for detection.

46-57. (Canceled)

58. (New) The antibody of claim 1, wherein the antibody binds with an epitope on P-selectin glycoprotein ligand-1 (PSGL-1).

59. (New) The antibody of claim 58, wherein said epitope is a carbohydrate moiety of PSGL-1.

60. (New) The antibody of claim 1, wherein the antibody binds to the same epitope on human dendritic cells (DCs) to which the antibody produced by hybridoma cell line DSM ACC2241 binds.

61. (New) The antibody of claim 60, where the antibody produced by hybridoma cell line DSM ACC2241 is M-DC8.

62. (New) The antibody of claim 1, wherein the antibody comprises the heavy chain variable region of SEQ ID NO:2 and the light chain variable of SEQ ID NO:4.

63. (New) An epitope binding fragment of the antibody of claim 62.